# RED CUBAN GAMES

## 1915

AS BRED BY

GEORGE W. MEANS,

CONCORD, :-: NORTH CAROLINA

U. S. A.

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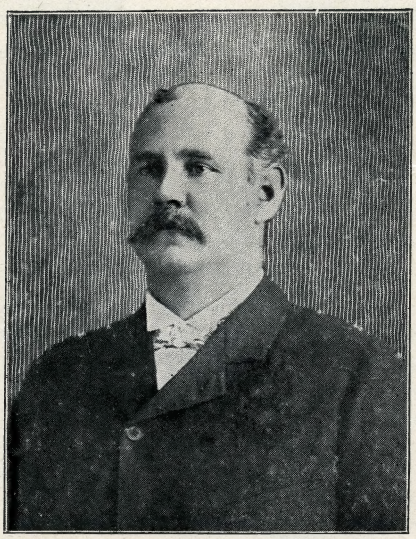


GEO. W. MEANS

THE MAN WHO HAS MADE THE RED CUBAN GAMES FAMOUS.

ELKIBAL—An 8 pound cock. Few have attained this weight, and we seldom see one so large as active. Winner of three battles.

PATCHEN—Son of Jaybird, winner of seven battles.

DARKNESS II—Black in color, and there is scarcely a cock with a record like his. A winner himself, and he had 38 sons winners.

CLARENCE GENTRY—Weight 6-8

# To The Pit Game Fancier.

This makes thirty-eight years since I began to improve the little Spanish Cuban game cock. It is quite awhile and I know my experience and judgement combined upon one matter for so long has made it second to none.

In this catalog I am not going to enumerate the great deeds of my strain of Red Cubans.

I start by saying careful breeding has done the work. The dead gameness of the little Spanish Cuban is known the world over. I have added bone, muscle and general stamina by scientific breeding.

There are but few towns or cities in the United States where this strain is not known and favorably known In fact there are but few countries in the world where they are not very favorably known. They have fought wearing every kind of gaff—from the little ¾ inch brass pointer of Brazil, and the 1¼ inch steel of the New England States and Canada, as well as the 3½ inch Mexican Slasher. They have done well in all.

I issue this 1915 catalog more for the purpose of giving my prices in full and other information as to color, etc , than for repeating the great deeds in the pit of this strain.

## HISTORY

The originals of my stock were landed at Charleston, South Carolina, in the year 1871, and six years later I became possessed of my first trio. I have since then given fully as much care and attention to the breeding of these fowls as has ever been bestowed upon any strain, and am, therefore, convinced that today I have pit games second to none in existence.

During this period of 38 years I have occasionally added new blood, as in my opinion, it became necessary; doing so always with a view of improving strength and action, as well as retaining gameness.

My first infusion of new blood was one-eighth of the original Old Nick Arrington Stonefence, such as he bred in antebellum days.

It is necessary here to explain that I produced this exact proportion of blood for infusion by mating in certain small yards as follows: First year I bred a pure Stonefence cock to three pure Cuban hens. The second year I used one of their offspring, a stag, one-half Stonefence and one-half Cuban, on another small yard of pure Cuban hens. From this second mating I got a stag one-fourth Stonefence and three-fourths Cuban and the third year I used him with pure Cuban hens. This last mating produced stags one-eighth Stonefence and seven-eighths Cubans. These I used as brood cocks on my regular yards.

At another time by breeding in the same manner I infused one-eighth blood of a cock obtained at a South Carolina main, called at the time a cross between a Rucker Warhorse and Hackle.

Some time after I secured this cock I learned that he had formerly changed hands through the "agency of some slick-handed gentlemen" at a Charleston main. The truth of this I was never enabled to positively establish; but, be that as it may, I did not receive the property "knowing it to be stolen," and I may as well add that this detracted none from his worth, for a handsomer, gamer and better cock no man ever saw

Another infusion was one-eighth Imported Derby. This blood was obtained through the influence of Mr. Charles Harris, of this place, who induced a friend to make the shipment.

This cock's splendid form and perfect beauty would at any time have attracted the attention of a fancier, and his gameness and fighting qualities have won the admiration of the most thorough cocker.

The following are infusion of strictly Cuban blood: Capt. Sam Holt, with whom I am personally acquainted, for years ran a merchant vessel from Wilmington, N. C., to the West Indies. Through him I secured a magnificent knob-comb cock, the Captain bringing him over in person on his last voyage. This fowl was a fighter, and he and his progeny dead game. For further particulars I refer to Capt. Holt, now residing at Burlington, North Carolina.

At another time, through the kindness of Hon. E. R Chervalley, of New Orleans, who was known throughout the land as a lover of thoroughbred, I was enabled to procure a fine Spanish cock. This cock was as game as any I ever saw.

Next I mention that 23 years ago I imported directly from Havana a tassled pair of Cubans. The cock stood the test himself and all of his offspring, as well as those of the hen, proved themselves dead game. Seventeen years ago when General Lee was American Representative in Cuba I was enabled through him, with whom I had the honor of an acquaintance while he was Collector of Internal Revenue in Virginia, to secure a pair of the Celebrated Rodriguez strain. This particular blood is said to be the best in the island of Cuba. The blood of these was well tested and is disseminated in every yard, and nothing purer in the game line exists.

In 1901 a friend in Baltimore whose name is coupled with that of the best game fowl blood in America wrote me that he had secured a very fine cock direct from Cuba. The following is a quotation from the letter:

"As you prefer Cuban blood I have a friend who brought from Santiago a Cuban cock He gave $14 for him after a very hard battle of two hours. If you would like to have him I will loan him to you."

I got this cock, a beautiful spangle I call him, though the marking of color came near to that of the pyle, and some of his offspring crossed with strong infusions of the Rodriguez blood, above referred to, do come pure pyles in color.

I first bred this cock in 1902 to one of my largest and most

highly prized Cuban hens, and then by permission of my Baltimore friend I tested the cock to a finish and found him the purest game. All of his stags by this hen except what I sent my friend, I also tested and all died fighting to the last. One of these I bred before testing and from this one I took the brood stock for infusion of the new blood.

I am not at liberty to print the gentleman's name but if any are enough interested to desire his name and request it I will give it to them.

In the year 1906 Mr. Wilson Wright, now a resident of Tampa, Fla., and a patron and friend of mine, visited Havanna While there with a Spanish friend he attended a pit at which Senor Juan N Canizares, one of the greatest cockers in the Cuban Republic, was handling and was presented by his friend.

During the evening Sr. Canizares pitted a very beautiful black breasted, yellow leg cock which won after a hard battle. Mr. Wright was much impressed by the cock's action in battle and by his style and beauty. His friend noting this bought the cock from Sr. Canizares paying him $46.00 for it and gave it to Mr. Wright. At that time this cock was the winner of five battles, and afterward, during the early spring of 1906, won three more for Mr. Wright. Mr. Wright then sent him to me, and I bred him to two of my finest hens. I secured from this mating a few fine stags and pullets. Afterward I raised enough from properly mating these to thoroughly test the blood and after doing so and being satisfied of its purity and worth, I have infused it into my yards.

The blood of my Cubans today is as above stated. Long inbreeding is done at the expense of bone, muscle and general vitality, and outcrossing is dangerous. I therefore breed many different yards, and pedigree the stock by breeding full sisters on a yard and then by judiciously breeding from one yard to another I manage to keep all the lines of blood up and breed well-formed strong-muscled cocks without the introduction of new blood, only as mentioned.

## COLORS

The name "Red Cuban" was originally given to this strain because it came from Cuba and all cocks were red. Now the colors vary from a beautiful spangle to a coal black, including light reds, dark reds, blue reds, and a few red pyles, but dark red predominates. The black is from the blood of the Chervalley cock and from the Hackle, one being very dark and the other a coal black with brass wing butts.

The blue red, pyle and the spangle come from the Santiago cock and from the Rodriguez blood, the latter bring forth quite a number of spangles. Wherever this blood is we are apt to have a spangle appear. Some of these spangles turn white gradually at the moulting of each year until some of the cocks get nearly white and some of the hens do get pure white.

## HEADS

The Red Cubans breed smooth head and single comb, also tassel and knob-comb, or both round head and tassel, and have large heads well set upon strong, lengthy necks. By carefully reading the accounts of the different infusions of blood as given above it will be seen where the tassel and knob-comb or round head come from.

The tassel and knob-comb can easily be bred out, yet the blood retained. The term knob-comb or round head means the same. Some call it a pea comb.

As heretofore neither knob-combs nor tassels seemed very popular. I kept them bred down as much as possible, and only a few of each appears. The public generally dislikes the tassel and cares little for the knob-comb. Sometimes a customer calls for one or the other and generally I am able to supply it.

## LEGS

The Red Cubans are of a good average station, and have large, heavy boned legs, set wide apart, generally dark in color; but they also show a white, moccasin and yellow leg, all of which comes from the imported Derby blood, the Holt and the Canizares cock.

## WEIGHT

The weight of cocks are from 4½ the lightest, to 8 pounds, which very few reach, the average being 5.12 to 6.2. Hens run in weight from 4 to 5 pounds.

## SHIPPING

Never have I received a complaint in reference to a shipping crate. They are strong and the lightest made for the safety of fowls Every shipment goes at BREEDERS' SINGLE RATES, so customers have no complaints of high express charges. One hundred pounds of my stock goes to San Francisco for $12.00. Less weight and shorter distances in proportion.

**Positively nothing shipped C. O. D.**

## PRICE LIST

Cash in Registered Letter, New York Draft, Express Money Order, or Postoffice Money Order must accompany all orders.

**Please do not send personal checks, as collection will be made before shipment if buyer is unknown and this causes delay.**

## COCKS

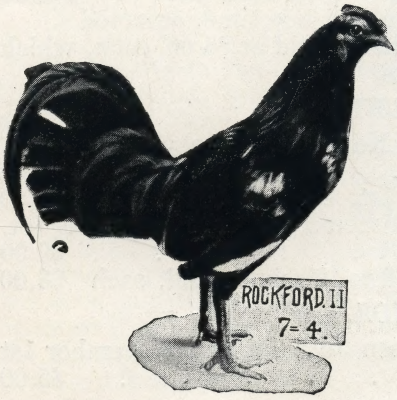
| | |
|---|---|
| Extra heavy cocks, very fine, 6.6 and above . . | $15.00 |
| Cocks weighing 5½ to 6 pounds, each . . . . | $10.00 |
| Cocks weighing 5¼ to 5½ pounds, each . . . | $ 8.00 |
| Cocks weighing 5 to 5¼ pounds. each . . . . | $ 7.50 |
| Cocks weighing 4½ to 5 pounds, each . . . . | $ 7.00 |

BETHEL. 6 12

ALBERMARLE.
5-12.

STANLEY. 6. lbs.

HANS. 6-14.


ROCKFORD II
7-4.

DARKNESS 4th.
6-lbs.-1oz.

Cocks furnished for mains in lots of five or more at $6.00 each, assorted weights off walks 4½ to 6¼ pounds.

## HENS, TWO YEARS OLD AND OVER

Hens weighing 4½ pounds or over, each . . . . . $5.00
Hens weighing less than 4½ pounds, each . . . . . $4.00

## SPECIAL BLOOD YARDS

Extra fine cock, 6 8 or more and five hens, 4½ pounds . $35.00
Fine cock, 5½ to 6 pounds and five medium hens . . $25.00
Extra fine cock, 6 8 or more and two hens 4½ to 5 lbs . $25.00
Fine cock 5½ to 6 pounds, and two hens of medium size . $18.00
Fine cock 5¼ to 5.8 pounds and two medium size hens . $16.00
Fine cock 4½ to 5 pounds and two medium size hens . $15.00

## STAGS

Unwalked stags, sold before November 1st, same year they are hatched, each . . . . . $3.50
The same, extra-selected, each . . . . . $4.00
Unwalked stags, sold after November 1st, and before January 1st, each . . . . . $4.00
The same, extra-selected, each . . . . . $5.00
Unwalked stags, after January 1st, hatched the spring before, each . . . . . $5.00
Young stags in lots of one-half dozen ordered before November 1st, per one-half dozen . . . . . $12.00

## WALKED STAGS

These are ordered after January 1st, usually for spring fighting and breeding.

The price on these range seemingly higher than cocks but it must be taken into consideration that their walking has to be paid for just as cocks, and that as cocks they will bring me much more because of increase in weight, whereas the cost to me will be nothing more.

5½ to 6 lb., this size will make 6½ to 8 lb cock, each . $12.00
5¼ to 5½ lb., this size will make 6 to 6¼ lb. cock, each . $ 9.00
5 to 5¼ lb., this size will make 5½ to 6¼ lb. cock, each . $ 7.00
Under 5 lb., this size will make 4½ to 5½ lb. cock, each . $ 5.00
Five or more walked stags ordered at one time, assorted weights from 4½ to 6 pounds, will be sold at $6.00 each, which is the same as cocks in main lots.

## PULLETS

Young pullets sold before Nov. 1st, same year hatched, each . . . . . $2.00
After Nov. 1st and before Jan. 1st, each . . . . $2.50
Young pullets in lots of one-half dozen sold before November 1st, same year hatched . . . . . $9.00
Pullets after January 1st, from 8 to 12 months old, each $3.00

## TRIOS

Stag and two pullets sold between July 1st and November 1st same year they are hatched . . . . . $5.00

Stag and two pullets sold after November 1st and before January 1st, same year hatched . . . . . $7.00
Stag and two pullets after January 1st . . . . $10.00

## EGG SHIPMENTS

I ship eggs by EXPRESS ONLY packed in the very best manner.

If you fail to get a hatch I will duplicate the shipment at half price.

## EGG PRICES

One setting of 13 . . . . . $ 3.00
Two settings, 26 eggs . . . . . $ 5.00
Five settings in one order, 65 eggs . . . . $10.00
Ten settings in one order, 130 eggs . . . . $18.00

Egg season begins February 15th and continues until June 15th. Remember, eggs will not be sent by Parcel Post.

It is well to have your orders booked ahead to insure prompt shipment at the time they are desired.

## CONCLUSION

Among the pictures of fine brood cocks shown here is "Jaybird" who won the great Ten thousand dollar battle at Jesus Maria, Mexico, February 20th, 1898. Much has been written about him in game journals as well as the newspapers of the United States. His record is known to thousands and it is not necessary to say more here. He was my brood cock before he went to Mexico and I believe was sold for more money than any other game cock in history.

Every other cock shown here has been or is now my brood cock and if you hope for such cocks, buy from the yards where this blood is.

In concluding this general history and price list I will say the world knows that the genuine Spanish Cuban cock stands pre-eminent for gameness and agility. None surpass him. By years of careful breeding I have added size, bone and muscle, and today Means' Red Cuban Games have no superiors.

Respectfully,
GEORGE W. MEANS,
Concord, N. C., U. S. A.

**Note**—When you order write name and address plain, and if your Postoffice and Express Office are different, be sure to mention it.

**Remember—Five fine cocks, only $30.00 if all go in one shipment.** ☞ DO NOT SEND CHECKS. I CANNOT USE THEM.

## A REQUEST

When you get this catalogue and read it, then oblige me by filing it away. You will want to refer to it certain and it will save you much time in writing about many things. For instance if you want to know whence a certain color comes in the Cubans, this catalogue tells you. It tells you all if you will just keep it and refer to it.

## COCKERS SUPPLIES

My favorite gaff is the full drop socket My set or pattern is the very best and the gaffs I sell will cut so sure as you put them on a fighting cock. The lengths I offer you are 2¼ and 2½ inches. Finest American Steel, highly polished and beautifully finished, guaranteed one year, $7 50 per pair.

Vanadium Steel, finished in Silver, the finest gaff made, $10.00 per pair.

Remember, either make has the same set, the same style, (full drop sockets) and can be had either 2¼ or 2½ inches long. Leathered, already for use. My own set. The best long gaff for the Red Cubans.

☞ If you desire short gaffs I can sell you the best 1¼ and 1½ inch at $5.00 per pair. Of these, others can sell you just as good at the price, but they cannot furnish you as accurate cutting long gaffs as I offer you.

I also keep for sale the Mexican Calsas, the best contrivance for staking out cocks ever made. (It is a leather and grass cord with a swivel.) I have the very best quality. 30 cents each by mail, or $3.00 per dozen. Send 30 cents for sample one and then you will buy a dozen.

I also keep the Mexican Muff for sparring cocks This is the best thing to cover the spur so that cocks cannot injure each other ever made. Far better than American muff. Price $1.50 per set of four. Write at once.

Respectfully,
GEO. W. MEANS,
Concord, N. C., U. S. A.

"STARLIGHT"
Weight 7.13
Coal black with a dozen or more bright brassy looking spots on each wing resembling stars on a dark night. "The Noblest Roman of Them All." Winner of three shake battles.

GASTON. 8 lbs.

EVAN TAYLOR.
6-¼ lbs.

DAYLIGHT. 7-2.

ALLEN COOPER 4 in.
7-1 lbs.

WINNER OF $10.000 BATTLE IN MEXICO. 1898.

BRED BY

GEO. W. MEANS. — CONCORD, N.C.

Sold for more money than any game cock on record. Winner of four battles and of more money than any cock of his day, before or since.

(CONCORD JOB PRINTERY, PRINT)